activities of HFC. FP&ARD had previously taken up a number of externally aided projects which had enabled HFC to meet a major part of FP&ARD's cost. After 1993, no such projects are in hand.

Recently, under its "Lab to Land Programme", the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has engaged HFC to establish Krishi Vigyan Kendras. In addition to normal marketing functions of the company, FP&ARD has started training, demonstration and other activities like horticulture, fisheries and poultry under the aegis of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras at Durgapur and Sindri. FP&ARD is also involved in formulating intensive programmes for training farmers in the use of bio-pesticides and eco-friendly systems from 1995-96.

Since no new extension projects with external funding are forthcoming, the Government is exploring other alternatives for the efficient deployment of the manpower of FP&ARD.

DDA's Expandable Housing Scheme, 1995

1264. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether area of houses allotted by DDA under the Expandable Housing Scheme, 1995 was calculated vertically;

(b) whether such method of calculation was explained in brochure and if not, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the applicants were misled thereby; if so, whether Government propose to refund the initial deposit to the successful applicants, not willing to accept the houses; if so, when;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reasons for giving such a misleading advertisement and how the DDA would compensate the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. DDA has reported that the area constructed by it and the ultimate area of the houses allotted under Expandable Housing Scheme, 1995 vary from location to location. Details of these areas were indicated in the brochure of the scheme. The typical plan of expandable house contained in the brochure of the scheme clearly showed that the area to be constructed by the allottee is to come up vertically over the area already constructed by DDA.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Reservation for Mentally Retarded Persons

1265. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide one per cent reservation for those mentally retarded persons i.e. persons who have physical, visual, hearing, speaking fitness but whose I.Q. in between 50% to 70% in the country for direct recruitment in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in Government departments and public sector undertakings;

(b) whether Government have received representations also for providing such reservation from the various organisations connected with mentally retarded persons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by Government to protect the interests of the mentally retarded persons in the country in regard to their subsistent?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No proposal to provide 1% reservation for mentally retarded persons in Group C & D posts in Government and Public Sector